

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652, N/A

TAGS: EGEN, ETRD, UR, US

SUBJECT: SOVIET PROPOSAL TO AUTHORIZE KAMA PURCHASING
COMMISSION TO HANDLE PROCUREMENT FOR MOSCOW TRADE CENTER

1. SOVIET TRADE REPRESENTATIVE MKRTUMOV RECENTLY
APPROACHED DEPARTMENTS OF STATE AND TREASURY WITH
PROPOSAL TO AUTHORIZE KAMA PURCHASING COMMISSION TO
HANDLE PROCUREMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER IN
MOSCOW. STATE, TREASURY AND COMMERCE HAVE STUDIED MATTER
AND DEPARTMENT PLANS TO CALL IN MKRTUMOV AND TELL HIM
FOLLOWING:

(A) WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO KAMA UNDERTAKING PURCHASES
FOR TRADE CENTER BUT BELIEVE THAT REQUEST SHOULD BE PUT
IN WRITING, AS WAS THE CASE WHEN PREVIOUS SUCH REQUESTS
WERE MADE OF SECRETARIES PETERSON AND SCHULTZ;

(B) WE WOULD HOPE TO SEE EARLY ACTION ON PENDING
REQUESTS FOR ACCREDITATION OF U.S. FIRMS IN MOSCOW.

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2. SUGGEST EMBASSY INFORM MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE

ON ACTION AUTHORIZING KAMA TO HANDLE PROCUREMENT FOR
TRADE CENTER AND USE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS HOPE RE
POINT B.

3. FYI. OUR AGREEMENT TO SOVIET REQUEST SHOULD NOT
BE INTERPRETED AS EXTENSION OF KAMA MANDATE BEYOND
OCTOBER 18, 1976. SHOULD SOVIETS AT LATER DATE REQUEST
SUCH EXTENSION WE WOULD WANT CLEARER PICTURE OF
DEMAND FOR COMMISSION'S SERVICES AS MEASURED BY AMOUNT
OF PENDING BUSINESS AND OF SIZE OF STAFF BEFORE
AUTHORIZING EXTENSION. END FYI. KISSINGER

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